The Cleveland Museum of Art
A world of great art for everyone

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sold Out Flamenco Concert Prompts The Cleveland Museum of Art to Add a Second Performance

"Manuela Carrasco needs only to float on stage to own it. Serene as a woman of Picassoesque volume, Ms. Carrasco often erupts into intense and virtuosic clear heel stamping." — The New York Times

CLEVELAND (Dec. 30, 2003) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) presents the Ohio debut of Spain's most passionate flamenco *puro* performer on **Friday, Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2004, at 2:30 p.m. in the Museum's Gartner Auditorium.** The Friday concert is **sold out**. This concert is part of the Museum's acclaimed VIVA! Festival of Performing Arts.

Admission to the performance is $35 and $31; $31 and $28 for CMA members. Tickets are available by calling 216-421-7350 or 1-888-CMA-0033, or online at www.ClevelandArt.org.

Born into a family of successful flamenco artists, Ms. Carrasco quickly became one of Spain's most celebrated flamenco performers. While still a young girl, she made her professional debut at "La Cochera", a prestigious flamenco club in southern Spain. Shortly thereafter, she was asked to perform at the popular "Los Canasteros" club in Madrid.

Ms. Carrasco's fluid movements and intense performances have earned her accolades from critics and audiences worldwide. In 1974, she won the *Pastora Imperio* prize in Córdoba and was awarded the National Dance Prize by the Jerez Academy of Flamencology. She also received critical acclaim for her performance in the musical *"Flamenco Puro",* which appeared on stages around the world including a long run on Broadway.

In 1984, she made her first appearance in Spain's most prestigious flamenco festival, the *Biennial of Arte Flamenco de Sevilla.* Since her debut concert, she has been invited to perform at the *Bienniali* every year. In 1992, she was honored with special acclaim for her work in *Seville* the culminating concert of the festival that year. Most recently, her performance was the highlight of New York's 2002 Flamenco Festival.

In addition to her stage performances, Ms. Carrasco's has appeared in several major motion pictures including Carlos Saura's 1995 film *"Flamenco"* in which she performed alongside some of the genre's most important performers.

Her ability to stay in touch with this ever-evolving art form has allowed Ms. Carrasco to remain one of the finest exponents of flamenco throughout her career.

The next performance in the VIVA! Festival of Performing Arts will be the **Flamenco Festival: José Merce, on Friday, Feb. 6, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. in the Museum's Gartner Auditorium**. Jose Merce, Spain's

(more)

hottest flamenco singer, is known for his electrifying performances that have sold out stadiums in Spain. His limitless talents have earned him the highest awards of his native Spain and his recordings with Virgin Records have surpassed the double platinum status. His company, which features the brilliant guitarist Moraito, will be making its Ohio debut. Tickets are available for $35 and $31; $31 and $28 for CMA members by calling (216) 421-7350 or 1-888-CMA-0033 or buying online at www.ClevelandArt.org.

Promotional support for VIVA! is provided by WNWV The Wave 107.3. The 2004 VIVA! series is made possible in part through a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Express Company.

The Museum receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America's leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The Museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the Museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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